



CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

**July 12, 2011 Updated/Amended

**Resolution #HSRA11-19
Direction to Staff regarding Merced-Fresno and Fresno-Bakersfield Section
Draft EIR/EIS Documents**

Whereas, pursuant to a memorandum of understanding, the Authority and the FRA have worked closely with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding the range of alternatives to be studied in the Merced-Fresno and Fresno-Bakersfield Section Draft EIR/EIS documents,

Whereas the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have concurred in the range of alternatives in general, but request additional study of an SR 152 alternative and Wyes and Western Madera alternative (Merced-Fresno Draft EIR/EIS) and a West of Hanford alternative (Fresno-Bakersfield Draft EIR/EIS),

Whereas Authority staff recommend that an SR 152 alternative and Wyes be fully evaluated in the Draft EIR/EIS for San Jose-Merced, and the scope of decision making for the Merced-Fresno EIR/EIS process be adjusted to focus on the north/south alignment choice only,

Whereas Authority staff recommend that Western Madera and West of Hanford do not merit detailed study,

Therefore it is resolved, that the Board directs staff to:

1. Work with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to provide additional documentation on the Western Madera and West of Hanford alignments;
2. Incorporate preliminary information on SR 152 and related Wyes into the Merced-Fresno Draft EIR/EIS
3. Add SR 152 and Wyes into the range of alternatives for the San Jose-Merced Draft EIR/EIS (see agenda item # 6)
4. Adjust the scope of decision making for the Merced-Fresno EIR/EIS to focus only on making the north/south alignment determination for Merced-Fresno, and to focus the San Jose-Merced EIR/EIS process for a decision on the east/west and Wye alternatives.

Vote:

Date:

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